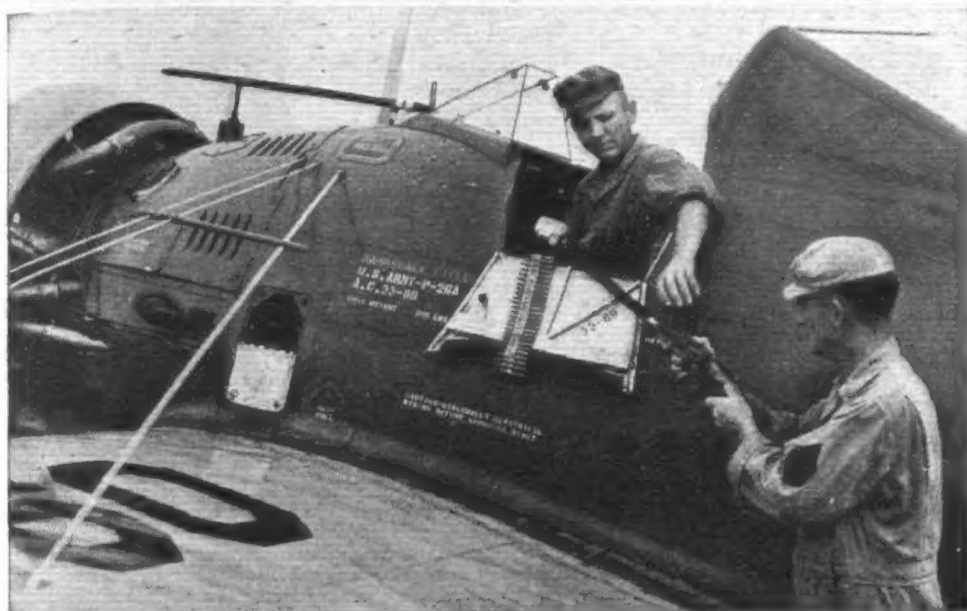


THE FOUR WINDS

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL QUARTERS



REARMAMENT: Changing the barrel of a Browning machine gun in a Boeing single-seater pursuit monoplane of the U.S. Army Air Corps. A portion of an ammunition belt may be seen draped over the side of the cockpit. Browning guns, in adapted form, are standard equipment in our own Royal Air Force.

THE Douglas company hopes to have the D.C.4 prototype finished this month. This machine has four Twin Hornet engines, a tricycle landing gear and triple fins.

A Fairchild 24 light cabin monoplane with a Ranger inverted engine has been sold to the Oerlikon Machine Tool Works at Zurich. A dummy "cannon" is fitted for demonstration purposes.

Mlle. Maryse Hiltz, the French airwoman who was missing for nearly three days, was found last week in the desert on the Gulf of Oman, Iran. She had been forced down by storms and engine trouble.

The R.Ae.C. informs those whom it may concern that the disused landing-ground at Penshurst, Kent, has been acquired by the Eridge Polo Club; extensive returfing is taking place, and pilots are particularly asked not to land there.

The Cold Weather Equipment Test Group of the American Army Air Corps has been experimenting with steel cleats embedded in the tread of low-pressure aeroplane tyres with the object of obtaining a better grip on ice-coated runways.

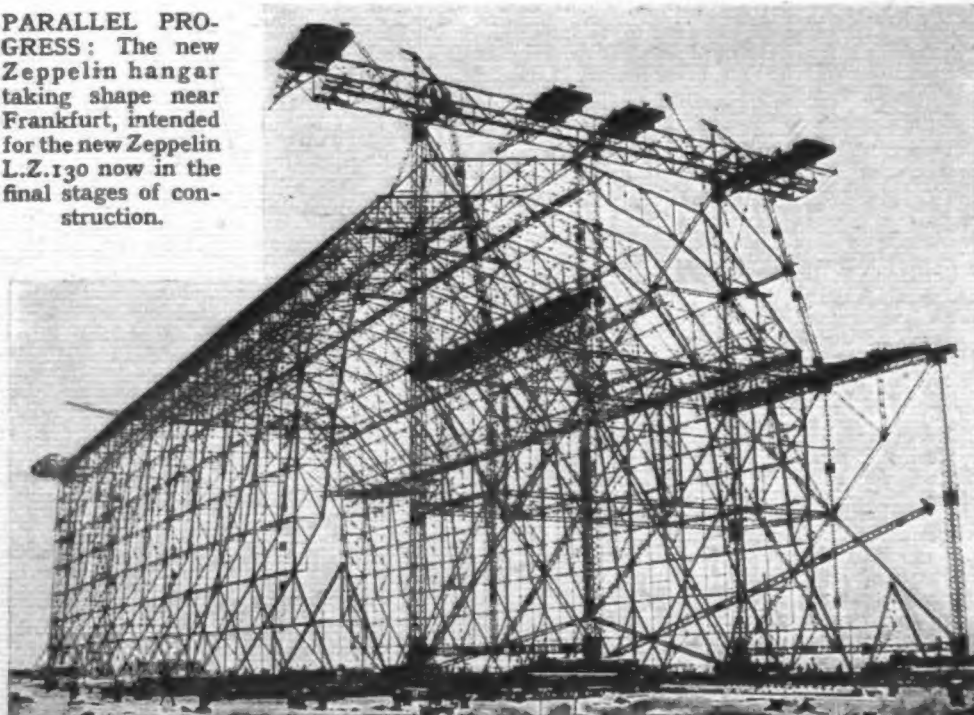
Mr. R. H. Henderson, a banner-towing pilot, has made his second forced landing in London within a week. Following the incident at Crystal Palace, where he landed in the grounds, he was obliged to put down his Avro 504 in Kew Gardens, striking a tree in the attempt. He was uninjured.

The crews and ground staffs for the new German Zeppelins will be accommodated in a town of their own near the Rhine-Main airport at Frankfurt-on-Main. By next year there will be room for 5,000 people. Captain Hans Schiller has been elected the first Mayor. Meanwhile the framework of the great hangar for the L.Z.130 is nearly ready for covering.

The West Surrey Joint Town Planning Committee has received a report from the Air Ministry stating that the site of their proposed aerodrome at Peasmarsh, near Guildford, was too small to comply with standard aerodrome requirements.

Mr. W. A. Kerr claims to have set up an Empire record for parachuting by jumping from a Rapide at 22,393ft. When he left the machine the temperature was 22 degrees below freezing point and he felt weak and ill. During the descent he became unconscious and had not "come to" by the time he reached the ground. The jump, made in South Africa, exceeded Trantum's best but was well short of the world's record—32,000ft.—to the credit of a Russian.

PARALLEL PROGRESS: The new Zeppelin hangar taking shape near Frankfurt, intended for the new Zeppelin L.Z.130 now in the final stages of construction.



The Saro Londons of No. 204 Squadron, which are on their way to Sydney, left Singapore for Batavia on Monday, January 10.

At Wiley Post Airport, Oklahoma City, a Mrs. Fay Cox made twenty-two parachute descents in a day for the benefit of some 10,000 spectators.

Miss Amy Johnson has bought an H 17 glider built in this country to German designs. The span is just over 30ft. and the weight 160 lb.

Germany has indicated her intention of resuming experimental transatlantic crossings, using L.Z.130, and a new permit for landing in the United States has been requested.

Certain American airlines during the winter have been supplying oxygen to assure maximum efficiency for pilots flying high "over weather." In one case it is planned to enhance the comfort of passengers by feeding oxygen into the cabin. In this instance the stewardess would have control, unknown to passengers, to avoid possible misunderstanding or psychological effect.

Twenty-five Years Ago

(From "Flight," January 11, 1913.)

"From the rustics who gathered around the [Marcel Desoutter] learned that he had descended at Cuffley. . . . Finding out from them his true direction back to the aerodrome . . . he asked one of them to give his propeller a pull over. To Desoutter's astonishment the reply was: 'It ain't no good, guv'nor, I wouldn't lay me hands on the thing, not if you give me a 'undred quid.' And the rest of them had the same holy fear of the machine, for it was the first time they had seen an aeroplane."